



PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Didier RAOULT et al.

Group Art Unit: 1645

Application No.: 09/936,921

Examiner: P. BASKAR

Filed: September 24, 2001

Docket No.: 110530

For: DIAGNOSIS OF WHIPPLE'S DISEASE

APPLICANTS' INTERVIEW SUMMARY

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Applicants thank Examiner Baskar for the courtesies extended during the November 21, 2005 telephone interview regarding the above-identified patent application.

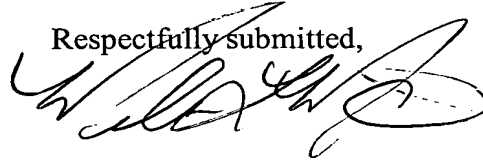
In the interview, Examiner Baskar argued that the teaching on the bottom of page 8 of the translation of Drancourt teaches a culture in which the *T. whippelii* bacterium reproducibly multiplies over time. However, we pointed out that this teaching is merely a summary of what is taught in Schoedon and does not teach anything more than Schoedon, which does not teach a culture in which the *T. whippelii* bacterium reproducibly multiplies over time. We also argued that Muller does not teach such a culture. In particular, we argued that Schoedon and Muller do not teach such a culture for substantially the reasons set forth in the Amendment and Declaration filed September 9, 2005.

In addition, during the interview, support for claim 30 was discussed. Applicants respectfully submit that support for this claim can be found in the original specification at, for

example, page 2, lines 19-24, which clearly teaches that the monocyte culture of Schoedon was insufficient, clearly providing support for excluding a monocyte culture from the claims.

During the interview, Examiner Baskar referred to a quality review person at the Patent Office that she consulted in preparing for the interview. Examiner Baskar suggested that we conduct another interview in which this person is involved. Thus, Examiner Baskar is respectfully requested to contact Applicants' representative to schedule such an interview.

Respectfully submitted,



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WPB:MLM/jam

Date: November 25, 2005

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